Chairmanship of Secretary, Civil Aviation has been set up to examine all aspects of restructuring the two air corporation including the question of equity participation by workers.

Assessment of Tourism after Devaluation of Indian Rupee

17. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that devaluation of the Indian rupee has pushed up tourism in the country;

(b) whether any assessment has been made in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) There has been an upward trend in tourist arrivals coinciding with the devaluation of the rupee in the middle of 1990-91. The tourism turn around was, however, due to a package of measures introduced by Government as well as improvement in the international political climate. The impact due to any particular reason, however, cannot be assessed separately.

Operation of A-320 from Calicut to Sharjah

18. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Director General of Civil Aviation has laid down certain guidelines for Indian Airlines for operating A-320 from Calicut to Sharjah, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the flight and duly time limitations prescribed by DGCA for flight crew are at variance with agreements reached by commercial Pilots Association and Pilots guild with IA Management;

(c) whether no such guidelines have been issued in respect of domestic A-320 flights; and

(d) whether Air India has been refused permission for operating A-320 on such a route, if so, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir, These guidelines relate to deployment of pilots with "check-pilot" qualifications, calculation of maximum permissible take-off weight, calculation of landing distance on wet runway etc. These guidelines apply to all Airbus A.320 operations to/ from Calicut irrespective of whether the flight is domestic or international.

(b) The Director General of Civil Aviation has laid down an upper limit for flight duty time, within which, the time limits stipulated in subsisting agreements can still be adhered to.

(c) the guidelines also cover domestic operations of A-320 aircraft.

(d) No, Sir.

Foreign aid for Development of Buddhist Circuit

19. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a loan agreement effective from January 1989 was signed between the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan and Government of India for development of tourist infrastructure on the Buddhist circuit;

(b) if so, what was the schedule of the overall investment envisaged for the project and how much has been utilised;

(c) what are the reasons for delay in work progress; and

(d) how far these fall short of recommendation's of Japanese Task force?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The total cost of the project